

REMARKS

By virtue of this Second Preliminary Amendment, corrections have been made to claims 2 and 3 so as to eliminate awkward phraseology in claim 2 and the lack of antecedent basis for the term "flexible" in claim 3. It is also seen that claims 10-20 have been added:

Claims 10-12 specify that the tie layer is present in the structure and claims 17 and 18 specify the nature of the tie layer, with support being found on page 12, lines 23-25.

Claim 13 defines the polyolefin backbone as either a polyethylene homopolymer or copolymer.

Claim 14 provides a group of "X" compounds, with support being found on page 15, lines 6-15.

Claim 15 defines the first layer (a) as formed from a blend.

Claim 16 defines different polyamides, as drawn from pages 4-7 of the specification.

Claims 19 and 20 are directed to the use of the structures for fabricating various items, and as such, it is respectfully submitted that such fabricating claims, if restricted out, would be subjected to a rejoinder, as long as they would be dependent on allowed multilayer structure claims.


To accelerate prosecution, Applicants acknowledge a telephone call from the Examiner, requesting a restriction requirement between claims 1-5 and claims 6-9. In response, Applicants elect claims 1-5, but respectfully traverse the restriction requirement, on the grounds that the major patentable weight of original claims 6-9 comprises the multilayer structures upon which they are dependent. Consequently, substantially no additional search would be required for the examination of claims 6-9.

Finally, being filed with this amendment is an Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants look forward to receiving an Office Action on the merits of the application as soon as possible.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,


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